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NUMISMATIC
Literary Guild
NEWSLETTER
July - August, 1972

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MEET YOUR OFFICERS

The elections are complete and you have a board composed of some of the foremost individuals in our hobby. Reelected were Eric Newman and Tom Haney! Joining the board were members Leon Lindheim, Lee Hewitt and Charles Hoskins. A poll of the new board disclosed the selection of Ray Byrne as Executive Director for the next term. This hard working member (out of office as a board member because the By-Laws prevent anyone from serving more than two terms on the board) can be counted on to fulfill his obligations with the greatest of expertise. Installation of the board will occur in New Orleans.

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We thank our members for their interest in N.L.G. Our editor, Lee Martin, recently told me that there was a high percentage of votes cast by our members in our last election. Elsewhere in this issue are the results. All of those elected were contacted and accepted with pleasure.

As the first order of business, the new N.L.G. Board of Governors voted unanimously for Ray Byrne as the new Executive Director. Ray Byrne is a former Director and one of our hardest working members, participating in our annual get-togethers and assisting with other chores, including the difficult task of preparing the By-Laws.

Ray is well known as an outstanding numismatist, author and researcher and will be a great asset in his new job as Executive Director. He will be installed, along with our other officers, at our annual meeting of the A.N.A. Convention in New Orleans.

Our hard-working treasurer, Gordon Z. Greene, has some wonderful souvenir tickets prepared and we hope you will contact him soon so we can plan on the number attending. As usual, there will be many surprises in addition to the regular program.

We have prevailed upon our perennial editor to continue his difficult stint of getting out each issue so promptly. Lee Martin has the interest of our group at heart and we are fortunate that he will make room in his busy schedule for the N.L.G. Newsletter.

The newsletter is the only contact many of our members have with N.L.G. and I know the editor needs news items as well as stories at all times.

The Board of Directors has voted three Honorary Memberships in our organization and they will be presented at our meeting to Miss Eva Adams, former Director of the U. S. Mints, Felix Schlag of Jefferson nickel fame, and Gilroy Roberts, outstanding medalist.

From early reports, there will be international as well as national dignitaries attending our annual event. Join in the fun and merriment!

Maurice M. Gould

COIN COLUMNIST AWARDS

The membership of N.L.G. can be proud of the fine quality coin columns appear- in non-numismatic newspapers. Entrants were diversified but all showed style and numismatic knowledge. Judges finally

declared the following winners each in a single category:

- Non-numismatic with a circulation less than 100,000 - Phil Walton, Tribune Publications, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.
- Non-numismatic with a circulation over 100,000 - Cale Jarvis, The Globe and Mail, Toronto, Canada.
- Syndicated columnist, Maurice Gould, Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

Plaques will be sent directly to the editor of each publication for presentation to the columnist.

Incidentally, not all N.L.G. coin columnists entered and it is hoped a unanimous turn-out will be next year's major event. N.L.G. extends its congratulations to the recipients and those represented. A miniature award representation will be given to the winners during the New Orleans meeting.

MEET MAURICE GOULD . . .

IT DOESN'T PAY TO BE A FRIEND OF THE EDITOR! The following is a very biased report reserved for s close "compatriot". (Notice the last four letters of that word).

Maurice has a serious handicap. He was raised in Boston and did not learn English until he moved to California at the age of 76! It is not true his image is viewed in the immortal painting "Spirit of 76!" Maurie says the artist could not paint the mule on which our esteemed director was ass-tride. Maurie never learned to play the piccolo. He would have liked to play the piano but the mule refused to carry one.

Maurie was appointed Executive Director of N.L.G. and has served ably. "Ably" pays him what he is worth and that leaves Mrs. Gould with a very tight budget. A visitor to the Gould home is immediately depressed by the great number of rewards forced on Maurice by various organizations. He is a member of Alcoholics Unanimous and has won the Order of Red Nose twice. He also is Chief Chicken Chaser of..... I could go on but the extent of his demerits would underwhelm our readers.

Maurice is a capable numismatist and is capable of almost anything. His current position as Publicity Chief for the Lombardo Mint will allow him to renew contacts with N.L.G. members. (We are looking forward to the Maurice Gould handshake medal). Not many members are aware of Maurice's show business career in which he starred as a dancer. The play was called "Hair". I think the full name was "Hair Today and Gone Tomorrow." His gyrations astonished the audience, appalled his wife and won another award for him. Resting in his cubicle is a bronze plaque which is a heckuva thing to have in your cubicle.

We must pay tribute to his charming better half, Jean. (We MUST because she reputedly has a wicked left hook!) The Goulds have been happily married for many years. Jean tells me it seems like forever. The reason for such success is the Gould motto of "Always be cheerful," stemming from their Boston beginning (plus the fact that Boston spelled backwards is Not-sob).

It is time to close this tribute - - - or is that word "tribulation?" The meeting in New Orleans will be his last N.L.G. official function and you can be sure it will be an evening never to be forgotten . . . even though he may want to do so.

HAVE YOU ORDERED YOUR TICKETS?

The fifth annual meeting at the Junge Hotel in New Orleans, on August 18th at 9:00 p.m., promises to be a most unusual one and we hope to have a lot of laughs and comradery.

Gorgon Greene has designed an interesting ticket featuring the Canal and Banking Company, New Orleans $5.00 bill on the obverse and the admission ticket on the reverse. Price per ticket is $2.00. Advance ticket orders are appreciated as this will allow us some idea of the refreshments required.

THE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST . . . AGAIN

Peggy Borgolte is in charge of the photo contest and exhibition. Each year, with the exception of our last meeting when the contest was bypassed, we have had fine photographs submitted. This year the contest is limited to members of N.L.G. Why not submit any photograph in black and white or color that is numismatic in content? Size limitation is 5x7 to 16x20 and photos should be mounted for best eye-appeal. Contact this newsletter if you have any questions. The awards will be outstanding and worthy of your finest efforts.

All photographs should be mailed to the Junge Hotel, attention: Peggy Borgolte. They should arrive before the exhibition beginning August 14th. Why not mail them about August 7th?

NUMISMATIC LIBRARY

Writers are readers. There is little doubt that N.L.G. members read extensively. Members have also contributed superb material for our library and we have available many autographed copies of publications often of limited issue.

Emil Di Bella recently sent the third edition of his "Check List and Guide to Sales Tax Tokens". This soft cover listing has rapidly reached a point of recognition as a standard and anyone researching sales tax tokens should own a copy (or borrow the Guild's copy).

THE PUBLICATIONS

Derek Young, editor of Irish Numismatics, has produced his May-June, 1972 release and once again has created a fine magazine. Irish Numismatics is available from Stagecast Publications, 15 Eaton Square, Monkstown, Dublin, Ireland. Subscription costs are $5 a year or $10 Air Mail. Articles of interest cover a catalog of legal tender notes 1943 through 1953 of the Central Bank of Ireland. A review of the Waterford Coin, Stamp, Antique and Fair pulls no punches and gives reasons why the event was unsuccessful. Derek's talents as a writer and photographer are evident.

The slick 46-page magazine also has Jerry Remick represented with "Suggestions For Future Issues of Irish Coinage". Jerry is a prolific writer and his talents have long been recognized.

The COINage July dated issue once again featuring the attractive covers by editor, Jim Miller, has familiar by-lines of Guild members Oscar Dodson, Tom Becker, Clem Bailey plus staff member contributions.

The Summer issue of Coin Mart, which is not available through subscription and is sold exclusively on newsstands, features an attractive cover with the Carson City silver dollar in official case. By-lines include John Dunn and several stories reprinted from George Rony's writings.

The July Coins Magazine has stories by Guild members Walter Breen, Maurice Gould, Carl Allenbaugh, John Dunn and Clem Bailey. Dunn's story is in full color and discusses the strange world of error coins.

PENDING . . .

One of the problems N.L.G. has is the difficulty in discovering worthwhile projects. Some members indicate the Guild has become a social organization and has minimal contacts with hobbyists not directly related to the writing profession. Perhaps the argument has some merit but the Guild's prime purpose is the betterment of numismatics via its members.

An unnamed organization which will be named and thanked if the Board approves the proposal, may well solve our financial and lack of contact with the public problems. This fine numismatic firm has offered to pay all costs in the production of tape cassettes. The tapes hopefully would be recorded by Guild members who are experts in a specific field. A correspondence course in numismatics could be offered, with an inexpensive recorder, at a nominal price.

Thus far, the entire project is only in the talking stage but in August the new board will be presented with the entire proposal and if approval is secured, we will hear much more about the verbal correspondence course. It is hoped members will volunteer their services and record one hour lessons on tapes for distribution. Profits would go to the Guild and expenses would be defrayed by the hobby-minded organization thus far resting only in the glow of our profound "thanks for the offer!"

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

Carl Allenbaugh and Ray Byrne reside in the Pennsylvania area recently inundated. It is hoped the waters were not in contact with our members and just as the old cliche goes "there is always a bright side," they must be thankful they are not collectors of stamps.

* * *

Barbara Lyon and Ray Manville are two members who make use of N.L.G. after their names. Our congratulations to them and a "squinting eye glance" at members who ignore the use of N.L.G.

Krause Publications may have a new member for the Guild. Edwin Reiter is the new editor of Numismatic News Weekly. He formerly wrote a coin column and is an experienced journalist. We look forward to seeing an application for "Reiter the writer."

* * *

Vernon Brown will attend our meeting and has gone a step beyond our pun. His middle initial is L so Vernon indicates "Lots of rain and little sun makes Vernon Light Brown."

THE COIN SHOW

Many coin conventions have been finding it difficult to bring viewers into the arena. A recent visit to a rock and gem convention gave some insight into how another hobby treats its devotees.

Exhibit cases are large, well lighted showcases capable of holding movable and revolving stands. Specimens were labeled and explanations given that allowed the inexperienced viewer to grasp what and why the subject was attractive.

Judges saw the cases as soon as the show opened and a point list was added to each case allowing the public to see why prize winners were selected. They also motivated the losers to additional effort in future events. But best of all was the idea that allowed exhibitors to stand near their cases and describe .. in detail .. to all who asked, what it was all about.

The four day show attracted 21,000 visitors. Each paid $1.75 and the dealers were constantly swamped by purchasers. Bourse tables were $400 but each dealer had at least 20 feet and some were enclosed in a forty foot square. Profits were strong and all dealers indicated they wanted to return.

The greatest single attraction for the rock and gem visitor was a constant group of lapidary fans "doing their thing." Stones were faceted, rings were cast and rocks polished. Audience participation was strong. WHY NOT HAVE THE SAME IDEA IN A COIN EVENT?

Microscopes could be used to check errors, blemishes, etc. Proper cleaning, toning and storage of coins could be demonstrated. The process involved in making silver bars, elongateds, plates, coin jewelry, etc. would be an attraction. Obviously there are other ACTIVITIES that could be promoted. The way to a coin audience's heart is PARTICIPATION!

COIN PEOPLE ARE NICE PEOPLE

The slogan of the California Collectors of Elongateds is "Smile." Their interpretation is: Stretched Money Is Like Elongateds. We find this interpretation of smile in a wonderful book "The Joy of Words" produced by the Ferguson Publishing Company.

A SMILE

A SMILE costs nothing, but gives much. It enriches those who receive, without making poorer those who give. It takes but a moment, but the memory of it sometimes lasts forever. None is so rich or mighty that he can get along without it, and none is so poor but that he can be made rich by it. A smile creates happiness in the home, fosters good will in business, and is the countersign of friendship. It brings rest to the weary, cheer to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad, and it is nature's best antidote for trouble. Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, or stolen for it is something that is of no value to anyone until it is given away. Some people are too tired to give you a smile. Give them one of yours, as none needs a smile so much as he who has no more to give.

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

Yasha L. Beresiner will visit South America, Mexico and New Orleans so we will meet this distinguished and popular paper money editor. (Yasha received many votes in the recent Board election).

* * *

Mel Wacks is now associated with First Coinvestors and joins member Stanley Apfelbaum in being with this progressive firm.

* * *

Tom Becker and Carl Allenbaugh have become "experts" in the Rock & Gem field by having their by-lines in that Behn-Miller Publication.

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They laughed when I said I was a medal collector . . . .

Best wishes from Neil Cooper

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